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SUBJECT Soviet View of Malenkov's Role

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Malenkov has increased his good reputation with high Party circles ever since the elimination of Beria. High-level Party functionaries are convinced that Malenkov does not intend to assume a position comparable to that of Stalin, and that there will be no attempt to build him up as the new "vozhd". It is generally assumed that Malenkov is sincere in his withdrawal from the public eye. At the Supreme Soviet meeting he only received routine applause and talked without any attempt to emotionally arouse the audience in order to provoke the kind of demonstrative cheers which were customary for Stalin.

2. Malenkov appears to his Party chiefs as a personality who can be kept within bounds. He carries out a collegial leadership which is being emphasized in Communist propaganda. The highest ranks of the Party believe that this principle is now being extended in all the top levels of the Party.

3. Malenkov has instructed Ulbricht repeatedly not to be too harsh towards the anti-Ulbricht factions in the SED. This was pointed out as an example of the moderation and intent at reconciliation set by Malenkov after Beria's exit.

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4. within a year or two a reconciliation will be effected between the Soviet and the Yugoslav Communist Parties.

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